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August 3, 1994

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AUG 9 1994

The Honorable Reed E. Hundt, Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW.
Washington, D.C. 20554

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20554

Re: CC Docket No. 92-77 Opposition to Billed Party Preference

Dear Chairman Hundt:

We are opposed to the application of Billed Party Preference (BPP) at inmate facilities.

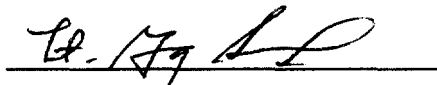
It was deemed necessary, upon analyzing the security and administrative needs of our facility, to route inmate telephone calls originating from our facility, via a single contractual carrier equipped to handle inmate telephone calls. We can not permit inmates open access to the telecommunications network and the associated freedom to choose any carrier they desire. Enacting BPP will eliminate our ability to coordinate inmate telephone calls via a contractual carrier we know and trust. BPP permits inmate telephone calls to be routed via a variety of different carriers, none of whom having any contractual obligation to us, and few will be adequately trained to handle inmate telephone calls.

We have installed telephone equipment specifically designed for inmate telephone calls. The special equipment presently installed is designed to deter fraud, eliminate abusive calls, and detect other criminal activity transmitted over telephone networks. Constant budgetary constraints dictate enlisting financial support from the contractual provider. Enacting BPP would eliminate this valuable source of revenue. Absent financial assistance from the contractual provider, monetary restraints would require our facility to curtail current telephone practices. Curtailment of telephone privileges and telephone access adversely affects inmate morale. Increased inmate tension hampers the ability of staff to manage inmates.

We recommend adopting a rate ceiling and requiring correctional institutions to comply with the rate cap. We urge you not to adopt regulations interfering with administrative and security decisions clearly falling within the area of responsibility of our facility.

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List ABCDE

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Lt. G. S. P.", is written over a horizontal line.

Acting Jail Administrator

Naples Jail Center

3301 Tamiami Trail E.
Naples, Florida 33962

cc:

The Honorable James H. Quello
The Honorable Rachelle B. Chong
The Honorable Andrew C. Barrett
The Honorable Susan Ness
Sheriff Don Hunter
File

Office of the Sheriff



DIRECTOR OF PRISON

DON HORSLEY
SHERIFF

GREGORY MUNKS
UNDERSHERIFF

COUNTY OF SAN MATEO

HALL OF JUSTICE AND RECORDS • REDWOOD CITY • CALIFORNIA 94063

TELEPHONE (415) 599-1665

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ADDRESS ALL COMMUNICATIONS TO THE SHERIFF

AUG 9 1994

July 25, 1994

The Honorable Reed E. Hundt
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF SECRETARY

Re: Billed Party Preference; CC Docket Number 92-77

Dear Commissioner Hundt,

As the Sheriff of San Mateo County, California, I am requesting that the Federal Communications Commission exclude local jails from the proposed "billed party preference" system for 0+ Inter LATA pay phone traffic regulations.

Over the years our inmate phone systems have been developed for the inmate environment, meeting many of our security needs and generating much needed revenue. This F.C.C. proposal could have an adverse effect on both those needs for a great number of counties throughout California.

Revenues produced from inmate phone systems help finance many worthwhile programs including adult education, GED, job training classes, substance abuse and family counseling. Recreational and exercise equipment, libraries and staff to manage some of those activities are paid with inmate money. Without telephone revenue most of the programs would cease or be financed with dwindling tax dollars that should be utilized elsewhere. Built-in security measures could also be eliminated, creating a more hostile environment for staff, inmates, and victims of crime.

Please consider the exclusion of jail in the B.P.P. regulations.

Very Truly Yours,

Don Horsley, Sheriff

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STATE OF CONNECTICUT

DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTION

340 CAPITOL AVENUE
HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT 06106

LOWELL P. WEICKER, Jr.
GOVERNOR

July 29, 1994

LARRY R. MEACHUM
COMMISSIONER

DOCUMENT CONTROL

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AUG 9 1994

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF SECURITY

The Honorable Reed E. Hundt
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M. Street, N. W.
Washington, D. C. 20554

Re: Billed Party Preference - CC Docket No. 92-77

Dear Mr. Hundt:

This letter is being written to voice the Connecticut Department of Correction's opposition to Billed Party Preference as it relates to the department's facilities.

At the present time, the Connecticut Department of Correction has added "collect call only telephone" security features at seven of our twenty-six facilities. These security features have greatly improved our ability to detect and curb attempted fraud, abuse and criminal activity. If BPP is enacted, it will certainly undermine our efforts.

As a correctional administrator with thirty years of experience, it is my opinion that the current telephone controls currently in use are adequate and I am opposed to BPP.

Sincerely,


Larry R. Meachum
Commissioner

- c: The Honorable James H. Quello
The Honorable Andrew C. Barrett
The Honorable Rachelle B. Chong
The Honorable Susan Ness
The Rev. Mary K. Friskics-Warren

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Carol Vance

DOCKET 92-77

214 Sherri
Universal City, TX 78148

July 20, 1994

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AUG 9 1994

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF GENERAL COUNSEL

The Honorable Reed Hundt
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street NW
Washington DC 20554

Dear Representative Hundt:-

As both an employee in the communications industry and a tax paying citizen, I am stating my strong **opposition** to *Billed Party Preference (BPP)* for O+ Calls. Further, I respectfully request your support in ensuring that Communications Commission Docket 92-77 is defeated.

Confinement facilities are unique and, as such, they require specialized phone system equipment. These systems permit a facility to block an inmate's call to specific numbers, block undesired inbound calls, prevent three-way calling and, overall, reduce fraud and other criminal activity. All of these capabilities are inherent in the equipment which means that, for the most part, intervention by administrative personnel is not required and that the maintenance of security is not jeopardized.

A highly competitive market dictates that the technically sophisticated equipment be installed at little or no cost to the facility and that the provider's commissions be paid to the facility. The commissions facilities receive are a major source of revenue for the inmate welfare funds which finance inmate programs such as family visitation, education and rehabilitation programs. Thus, many of the positive aspects of incarceration are actually being paid for by the inmates.

Succinctly put, most, if not all, of the positive factors derived from the current way of doing business will be discarded if Billed Party Preference becomes a reality. The industry would be going back to the period prior to 1987 when few correctional facilities in the country were paid commissions and many had to pay for their inmate phone service. From a financial point of view, it could be a disaster. Local telephone and long distance companies would no longer have to pay commissions because there would be no competition. Without commissions, facilities would have to turn to their governing body and taxpayers and compete for already scarce resources. Inmate morale funding would be decreased and attended by an increase in inmate control problems. Who would pay for the inmate phone equipment necessary to control calls and prevent fraud and abuse? Again, facilities would have to turn to government sources. Cutting existing programs or increasing taxes would be the requirement to balance budgets. With inmate populations growing at rates estimated from 10 to 15 percent per year, inmate populations could increase by 40 percent by the end of the century. This, of course, will mandate an increase in the number of facilities and manpower to administer them. More inmates and facilities will necessitate more non-revenue producing inmate phone systems if BPP were approved for correctional facilities.

I appeal for your support in **defeating Communications Commission Docket 92-77** with the saying, "If it ain't broke, don't fix it!" Even though inmate phone service is not perfect, a competitive market helps ensure that improvement continues.

Sincerely,

Carol Vance

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City of Chicago
Richard M. Daley, Mayor

Department of Aviation

David R. Mosena
Commissioner

Chicago O'Hare
International Airport

P.O. Box 66142
Chicago, Illinois 60666
(312) 601-8333 (TT / TDD)

July 29, 1994

The Honorable Reed Hundt
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, N.W.
Washington, D. C. 20554

Re: Billed Party Preference
CC Docket No. 92-77

Dear Mr. Hundt:

The Federal Communications Commission is considering the implementation of Billed Party Preference (BPP). The City of Chicago's Department of Aviation believes that the implementation of this program would have negative implications to the Chicago Airport System and the nearly 70,000,000 passengers using our facilities.

The income we receive through our 1,900 public pay phones is in the millions of dollars. Billed Party Preference would substantially decrease this revenue generated to the Department of Aviation. The effect of this would cause the rent paid by the airlines using O'Hare International Airport, Midway Airport and Meigs Airport to increase by a direct proportion. In addition, the contracts with our public pay phone providers currently allows for participation of 4 Disadvantaged Business Enterprises (DBE) in 35% of the public phones at the airports. Should BPP be implemented these DBE firms would also lose substantial income from the Chicago airports as well as many jobs benefiting minorities.

We feel that BPP is not necessary because existing equal access arrangements already allow our passengers to reach their carrier of choice. Both Federal and Illinois law already ensure that pay phone users access to their carrier of choice will not be blocked.

We ask that you not implement Billed Party Preference, its questionable consumer benefits and high cost of implementation or other efforts which would limit our freedom to manage this very important public service and income generating tool.

Sincerely,



ROBERT J. REPEL
Deputy Commissioner
Intergovernmental Affairs

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County of



DOCKET NO. 92-77

Aug 8 3 34 PM '94
Steve Magarian
Sheriff

August 1, 1994

The Honorable Reed E. Hundt
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

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AUG 9 1994

Re: Billed Party Preference; CC Docket No. 92-77

Dear Commissioner Hundt:

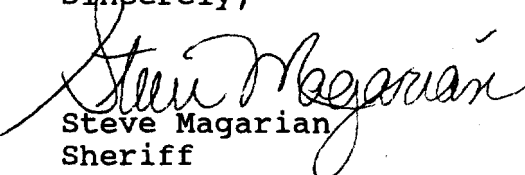
As a California Sheriff and a Jail Administrator, I am asking for your help. It is very important to me and my agency that the Federal Communications Commission exclude local jails from the proposed "Billed Party Preference" system for 0+ LATA pay phone traffic rules.

Billed Party Preference sounds good for the general public but it does not fit jails. If this system is adopted, it could undermine our ability to control inmate calling, eliminate current revenue-sharing arrangements that fund important inmate programs, and will create new financial burdens for our facilities.

It seems that the Federal Communications Commission does not fully understand the impact that their action will have on local detention facilities. Before you make any decision, please stop and listen to the thousands of local jails that will be negatively impacted by your failure to exclude them from the Billed Party Preference system.

Thank you for your attention and consideration of this important matter.

Sincerely,


Steve Magarian
Sheriff

SM:jw

cc: The Honorable James H. Quello, FCC
The Honorable Andrew C. Barrett, FCC
The Honorable Rachelle B. Chong, FCC
The Honorable Susan Ness, FCC
Inmate Phone Service Providers Task Force

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Dedicated to Protect & Serve



CHAMPAIGN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

DAVID J. MADIGAN
Sheriff

204 E. Main Street
Urbana, Illinois 61801-2799
(217) 384-1204

AUG 9 1994

July 29, 1994

Mr. Reed E. Hundt, Chairman
Federal Communication Commission
1919 M. Street, NW
Washington D.C. 70554

RE: CC Docket #92-77 - Opposition to Billed Party Preference

Dear Chairman Hundt,

As the Sheriff of Champaign County, Illinois, I am opposed to Billed Party Preference (BPP) in the county jail.

It is felt that we know the needs of our facility and the inmates should not have open access to the phone networking system by having the freedom to use any carrier they please. By them (inmates) having the freedom to choose their own carrier will make the phone system impossible to control.

We now have a working relationship with our present provider and have control over the equipment and rate charged.

There is more to think about than just the inmates. They don't care what a call cost because they do not pay for it. It is a family member (usually poor) that has to pay for the bill.

For the above mentioned reasons and several others, I am opposed to BPP. Please do not adopt regulations that interfere with our administration and security responsibility.

Sincerely,


David J. Madigan
Sheriff

DJM:tg

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PLACER COUNTY
DEPARTMENT OF
SHERIFF
CORONER-MARSHAL

MAIN OFFICE / P.O. BOX 6990
AUBURN, CA 95604 PH: (916) 889-7800
FAX: (916) 889-7899

TAHOE SUBSTATION / DRAWER 1710
TAHOE CITY, CA 96145 PH: (916) 581-6305
FAX: (916) 581-6377

DONALD J. NUNES
SHERIFF-CORONER-MARSHAL

July 25, 1994

The Honorable Reed E. Hundt, Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW
Washington, D.C.

Re: CC Docket No. 92-77 Opposition to Billed Party Preference

Dear Chairman Hundt:

We are opposed to the application of Billed Party Preference (BPP) at inmate facilities.

We have analyzed the security and administration needs at our facility and have found it necessary to route inmate calls from our facility to a single carrier who is equipped to handle inmate calls and with whom we have a contractual relationship. We cannot allow inmates to have open access to the telecommunications network and the freedom to use any carrier they please. BPP will take away our right to coordinate inmate calls through a carrier we know and trust. Instead, inmate calls will be routed to a number of different carriers, none of whom will have any obligation to us, and few of whom will be trained to handle inmate calls.

We have also found it necessary to install phone equipment that is specifically designed for inmate calls. This equipment helps prevent fraud, abusive calls, and other criminal activity over the telephone network. Given the constant budgetary constraints that we are under, we cannot afford to provide this equipment without the help of inmate phone service providers. BPP would also eliminate the revenue stream that finances our inmate phones. If BPP is applied to inmate facilities, there will be no way for us to finance these phones, nor will there be inmate phone service providers to assist us. Without inmate phones, the morale of our inmates will be devastated. The resulting increase in tension will make it more difficult for our staff to manage inmates.

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Furthermore, we are sensitive to the rates inmate families pay for calls. We fully appreciate the FCC's concern if some Sheriffs do not take responsibility for protecting inmate families from abusive rates. However, we do not agree with the FCC that BPP is the solution for this lack of responsibility. The proper and more effective action would be to adopt rate ceilings on inmate calls and then let Sheriffs enforce these rate ceilings through their contracts. Indeed, we believe the overwhelming majority of Sheriffs is committed to requiring rates that are fair and reasonable.

In short, BPP would take away our ability to employ important security and administrative measures that we have found to be necessary at our facility, ultimately reducing phone availability, which in turn decreases the efficiency of our staff. We urge you to *not* adopt regulations that interfere with our administrative and security decisions--decisions that clearly are within our discretion, and which we have a public responsibility to make.

Sincerely,



Captain Lawrence E. Newman, Commander
Placer County Jail
2775 Richardson Drive, Auburn, California

LEN/nl

Baltimore County Government
Office of the Budget/Data Processing



Electronic Services/Telecommunications
308 Centre Avenue
Towson, MD 21286

DELETED COPY
(410) 887-2148
Fax (410) 887-4610

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AUG 9 1994

July 28, 1994

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF SECRETARY

Baltimore County
Electronic Services/Telecommunications
308 Centre Avenue
Towson, Maryland 21286-5485

The Honorable Reed E. Hundt, Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: CC Docket No. 92-77 Opposition to Billed Party Preference

Dear Chairman Hundt:

We are opposed to the application of Billed Party preference (BPP) at inmate facilities.

We have analyzed the security and administration needs at our facility and have found it to be necessary to route inmate calls from our facility to a single carrier that is equipped to handle inmate calls and with whom we have contractual relationship. we cannot allow inmates to have open access to the telecommunications network and the freedom to use any carrier they please. BPP will take away our right to coordinate inmates calls through a carrier we know and trust. Instead, inmate calls will be routed to a number of different carriers, none of whom will have any obligation to us, and few that will be trained to handle inmate calls.

We have also found it necessary to install phone equipment that is specifically designed for inmate calls. This equipment helps prevent fraud, abusive calls, and other criminal activity over the telephone network. Given the constant budgetary constraints that we are under, we cannot afford to provide this

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equipment without the help of inmate phone service providers. BPP would also eliminate the revenue stream that finances our inmate phones. If BPP is applied to inmate facilities, there will be no way for us to finance these phones, nor will there be inmate phone service providers to assist us. Without inmate phones, the morale of our inmates will be devastated. The resulting increase in tension will make it more difficult for our staff to manage inmates.

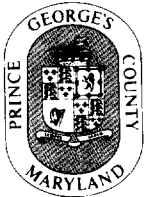
Further, we are sensitive to the rates inmate families pay for calls. We fully appreciate the FCC's concern if some Sheriffs do not take responsibility for protecting inmate families from abusive rates. We do not agree with the FCC that the solution for this lack of responsibility is BPP. The proper and more effective action would be to adopt rate ceilings on inmate calls and then let Sheriffs enforce these rate ceilings through their contacts. Indeed we believe the overwhelming majority of Sheriffs are committed to requiring rates that are fair and reasonable.

In short, BPP would take away our ability to employ important security and administrative measures that we have found to be necessary at our facility, ultimately reducing inmate phone availability, which in turn decreases the efficiency of our staff. We urge you to not adopt regulations that interfere with our administrative and security decisions -- decisions that are clearly within our discretion and which we have a public responsibility to make.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "W. Michael Pitcher". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "W." and last name "Pitcher" clearly distinguishable.

W. Michael Pitcher, Chief
Electronic Services/Telecommunications



Parris N. Glendening
County Executive

DECLASSIFIED

THE PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY GOVERNMENT
DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS
13400 DILLE DRIVE, UPPER MARLBORO, MARYLAND 20772



July 26, 1994

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AUG 9 1994

The Honorable Reed E. Hundt
Chairman, Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, N. W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF SECRETARY

**SUBJECT: Opposition to Billed Party Preference
CC Docket No. 92-77**

Dear Chairman Hundt:

Reference is made to the Federal Communications Commission consideration of billed party preference for correctional facilities. We feel that applying such a preference to inmate phone systems would create significant logistical and security problems which would far outweigh the benefits provided.

Our experience has shown through the years that fraud, abuse, and other illegal activity can easily be carried on over the phone lines, unless we have a system in place that can be more tightly controlled. For example, if an inmate harasses a citizen, we can arrange to have a block placed on that particular phone number. This is especially important when you are dealing with witnesses who could be intimidated. I am concerned that if we were compelled to depend on multiple phone systems to enforce such restrictions that we could not guarantee results.

In addition to security concerns, there would be a significant fiscal impact as well. By working with one phone company, correctional facilities have been able to obtain phone equipment which would have been cost prohibitive if we were required to purchase ourselves. Phones are very important from a security standpoint because communication with family members reduces tension among our inmate population.

Finally, we realize that some telephone companies associated with correctional facilities have been known to charge non-competitive rates. We appreciate the Federal

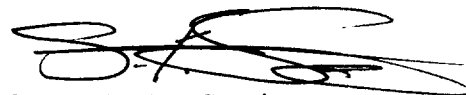
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The Honorable Reed E. Hundt
Page 2

Communications Commission's concern in this matter and welcome the Commission's assistance in developing rate ceilings which can be enforced contractually with telephone providers. In that way we could continue to maintain the security of our phone system while providing the consumer with quality service at competitive rates.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S. F. Saxton', with a large, sweeping flourish extending to the right.

Samuel F. Saxton
Director

SFS/pp

cc: The Honorable James H. Quello
The Honorable Rachelle B. Chong
The Honorable Andrew C. Barrett
The Honorable Susan Ness
APCC Inmate Phone Service Providers Task Force

**Corrections Commission
of
Northwest Ohio**

03151 Road 24.25
Route 1, Box 100-A
Stryker, Ohio 43557
419/428-3800
FAX: 419/428-2119

DOCKET NO. 92-77-0000000000

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AUG 9 1994

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF SECRETARY

Defiance County

Executive Committee:

David Westrick
Robert Switzer
Joseph Schmenk

Fulton County

Vice Chairman:

James Barber
Lowell Rupp
Darrell Merillat

Henry County

Chairman:

John Nye
Kenneth Rohrs
Richard Bertz

Lucas County

Executive Committee:

James Telb
Sandy Isenberg
Stephen Yarbrough

Toledo

Executive Committee:

Carleton Finkbeiner
Mary Grace Trimboli
Gerald Galvin

Williams County

Secretary:

Robert Wilson
Alan Word
Rosanne Fisher

Executive Director:

Jim Dennis

July 25, 1994

The Honorable Reed E. Hundt, Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20554

RE: CC Docket No. 92-77 Opposition to Billed Party
Preference

Dear Chairman Hundt:

I am opposed to the application of Billed Party
Preference (BPP) at inmate facilities.

I have analyzed the security and administration needs at our facility and have found it to be necessary to route inmate calls from our facility to a single carrier that is equipped to handle inmate calls and with whom we have a contractual relationship. We cannot allow inmates to have open access to the telecommunications network and the freedom to use any carrier they please. BPP will take away our responsibility to coordinate inmate calls through a carrier we know and trust. Instead, inmate calls will be routed to a number of different carriers, none of whom will have any obligation to us and few that will be trained to handle inmate calls. Criminal behavior with the phones will be uncontrollable.

We have also found it necessary to install phone equipment that is specifically designed for inmate calls. This equipment helps prevent fraud, abusive calls, and other criminal activity over the telephone network. Inmate phone providers evolved as a result of such uncontrolled criminal activity. Given the constant budgetary constraints that we are under, we cannot afford to provide this equipment without the help of inmate phone service providers. BPP would also eliminate the revenue stream that finances our inmate phones. If BPP is applied to inmate facilities, there will be no way for us to finance these phones, nor will there be inmate phone service providers to assist us. Without inmate phones, the morale of our inmates will be devastated. The

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Page 2

resulting increase in tension will make it more difficult for our staff to manage inmates.

Furthermore, we are sensitive to the rates inmate families pay for calls. We fully appreciate the FCC's concern if some Sheriff or Warden does not take responsibility for protecting inmate families from abusive rates. We do not agree with the FCC that the solution for this lack of responsibility is BPP. The proper and more effective action would be to adopt rate ceilings on inmate calls and then let Sheriffs or Wardens enforce these rate ceilings through their contracts. Indeed we believe the overwhelming majority of Sheriffs and Wardens are committed to requiring rates that are fair and reasonable. BPP is clearly an over reaction. Setting ceilings would be more responsible legislation.

In short, BPP would take away our ability to employ important security and administrative measures that we have found to be necessary at our facility. We urge you to not adopt regulations that interfere with our administrative and security decisions -- decisions that are clearly within our discretion and which we have a public responsibility to make.

Approving such legislation as BPP as currently written will also enable such inmate advocate groups to pursue other legislative agendas that exceed the intent of current case law, prisoner rights as guaranteed by our forefathers in the constitution and would encourage you to ignore what the professionals in the corrections field need to protect the public.

Respectfully submitted,

CORRECTIONS CENTER OF NORTHWEST OHIO



Jim Dennis
Executive Director

/pa

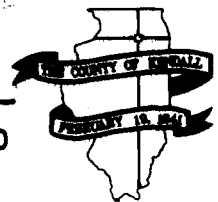
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**OFFICE OF THE SHERIFF**

KENDALL COUNTY

708-553-7500

1102 CORNELL LANE • YORKVILLE, IL 60560-9597



RECEIVED

August 1, 1994

AUG 9 1994

Reed E. Hundt, Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW
Washington, D. C. 20554

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF SECRETARY

Re: CC Docket No. 92-77 Opposition to Billed Party Preference

Dear Chairman Hundt:

I am opposed to the application of Billed Party Preference (BPP) at inmate facilities.

We have analyzed the security and administration needs at our facility and have found it to be necessary to route inmate calls from our facility to a single carrier that is equipped to handle inmate calls and with whom we have a contractual relationship. We cannot allow inmates to have open access to the telecommunications network and the freedom to use any carrier they please. BPP will take away our right to coordinate inmate calls through a carrier that we have a contractual agreement with. Instead, inmate calls will be routed to a number of difference carriers, none of whom will have any obligation to us, and few that will be trained to handle inmate calls.

We have also found it necessary to install phone equipment that is specifically designed for inmate calls. This equipment helps prevent fraud, abusive calls and other criminal activity over the telephone network. Given the constant budgetary constraints that we are under, we cannot afford to provide this equipment without the help of inmate phone service providers. BPP would eliminate the revenue stream that finances our inmate phones. If BPP is applied to inmate facilities, there will be no way for the County to finance these phones, nor will there be inmate phone service providers to assist us. Without inmate phones, the morale of our inmates will be devastated. The resulting increase in tension will make it more difficult for our staff to manage inmates.

Furthermore, we are sensitive to the rates inmate families pay for calls. We fully appreciate the FCC's concern if some Sheriffs do not take responsibility for protection inmate families from abusive rates. We are very concerned that the FCC's solution for this lack of responsibility is BPP. The proper and more effective action would be to adopt rate ceilings on inmate calls and then let Sheriffs enforce these rate ceilings through their contracts. Indeed we believe the overwhelming

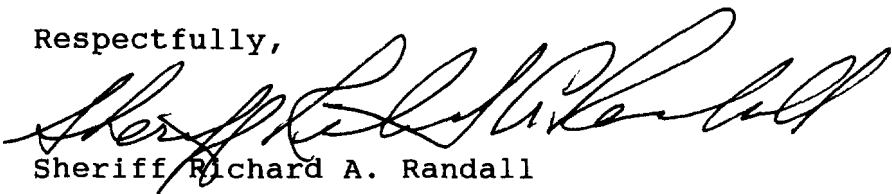
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majority of Sheriffs are committed to requiring rates that are fair and reasonable.

In short, BPP would take away my ability to employ important security and administrative measures that we have found to be necessary at our facility, ultimately reducing inmate phone availability, which in turn decreases the efficiency of my staff. Please, do not adopt regulations that interfere with our administrative and security decisions -- decisions that are clearly within our discretion and which we have a public responsibility to make.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sheriff Richard A. Randall", written in a cursive style.

Sheriff Richard A. Randall

CHOWAN COUNTY DETENTION FACILITY
POST OFFICE BOX 78
EDENTON, NORTH CAROLINA 27932
TELEPHONE NUMBER 919-482-3822

CC92-77

FRED A. SPRUILL
SHERIFF

MICHAEL CHINSOLO
CHIEF JAILER

RECEIVED JULY 29 1994

July 29, 1994

102-105
JUL 30 5 1994

The Honorable Andrew C. Barrett
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, N. W.
Washington, N. C. 20554

RE: Billed Party Preference (BPP)
CC Docket Number 92-77

Dear Mr. Barrett:

As a correctional facility administrator, I am in the best position to evaluate what call controls are necessary and in the best interest of inmates and the general public--not the federal government. Telephone calls controls are necessary in order to prevent abuse and fraud.

"Call abuse and fraud at correctional facilities are worse than at non-inmate locations!"

"BPP will in effect, grant inmates at this facility a new federal fight to use the long distance carrier of their choice. As the guardian of that inmate, I will no longer have control over how inmate calls are routed."

"Allowing inmate calls to go to any long distance carrier, as opposed to a service provider chosen by the Sheriff and I, and contractually committed to provide call and fraud controls, will threaten security. It is necessary to have a service provider with whom I am in daily contact, one who can service my needs by installing number blocking, PINs screening out calls to persons inmate which to threaten and eliminating a primary avenue of gang control inside the facility. I vigorously oppose any federal interference with our ability to manage and control inmate callings."

"Live operators who are not trained to handle prisoners call, will be subject to verbal abuse and harassment from the prisoners"

"The correctional facility will have no logical way to fight inmate abuse. Local facilities desiring specialized systems to fight fraud and abuse will have to budget extensively for these features."

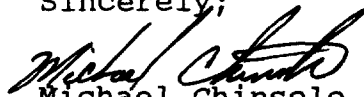
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"Billed Party Preference will do nothing more that undermine the correctional administrators ability to control all inmates in our facilities and to prevent fraudulent conduct and behavior. It will decrease public safety to all whom are involved in the criminal justice systems."

"Enactment of BPP will make limited use of the telephone as far as I am concern. If BPP is instituted, the danger to society of letting inmate control the collect calling system of the administration is just too great a threat to the public perception of safety to allow inmates access to telephones."

Sincerely;

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael Chinsolo", written in a cursive style.

Michael Chinsolo, Chief Jailier
Chowan County Detention Facility
Chowan County, North Carolina



Montgomery County Government

July 29, 1994

The Honorable Reed E. Hundt, Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M. Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: Billed Party Preference,
CC Docket No. 92-77

Dear Chairman Hundt:

We are opposed to the application of the proposed FCC regulation known as Billed Party Preference. This proposed regulation will allow inmates in correctional facilities to have open access to telecommunications networks for purposes of inmate phone calls. Open access of this nature contravenes correctional security.

Routing inmate telephone calls through a single carrier that has appropriate security features is essential in a correctional facility. Moreover, common practice today is that these single carriers are acquired under a contractual arrangement with government entities, whereby they furnish, install, and maintain the equipment at no charge to the facility. There is revenue to the facility in the form of a percentage commission. This revenue typically is available to offset government cost or goes to an inmate welfare fund to be used to purchase various items of materials and supplies such as recreation equipment.

The security packages available through these single party carriers allow a correctional facility to maintain a level of security on inmate phone calls. These security packages permit phone call time limits, elimination of third party calls, most frequent number called reports, use of NIN numbers restrictions, phone number restrictions, and call monitoring, as legally permissible. These features have been developed by our carrier specifically for correctional use in recognition of the security concerns indigenous to the corrections environment. For example, prior to the utilization of our present carrier, Montgomery County experienced a phone fraud scam by inmates to the cost of \$20,000 dollars to the telephone company. Moreover, a recent newspaper article in the Washington Post described a major drug ring being operated by an inmate out of the Bureau of Prisons facility. It is our feeling that the security features inherent in our present system by our carrier would have prevented these abuses. Since we have had this carrier, we have not experienced any cases of fraud and we have been able, through the reports available, to greatly facilitate investigatory matters.

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Department of Correction and Rehabilitation

50 Courthouse Square, Room 402, Rockville, Maryland 20850-2320, 301/217-7545, FAX 217-7641, TTY 217-6505

Letter: Billed Party Preference
CC Docket No. 92-77
July 29, 1994
page 2

We believe that the application of BPP (Billed Party Preference) will adversely affect our ability to control the phone program which aids in preventing abuse and fraud, will eliminate a revenue source, will result in increased cost by imposing upon us the requirement to pay for equipment costs, and will eliminate incentives for phone service providers to assist us. Personal phone call program capability is a significant morale builder among inmates. Tension within the facility would increase dramatically without it.

We are sensitive to the rates inmate families must pay for calls. We fully appreciate the FCC's concern if some facilities do not take the responsibility for protecting inmate families from abusive rates. We do not agree that the solution for this lack of responsibility is BPP. The proper and more effective action would be to adopt rate ceilings on inmate calls and let this rate be enforced through the contracts which individual facilities negotiable.

In sum, we believe BPP will take away our ability to address vital security and administrative concerns. We urge you not to adopt regulations which interfere with our administrative and security decisions, decisions that are clearly within our discretion and which we have the public responsibility to make.

Sincerely,



Devon Brown, M.A., M.P.A., J.D.
Director

cc: The Honorable James H. Quello
The Honorable Rachelle B. Chong

The Honorable Andrew C. Barrett
The Honorable Susan Ness

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DECLASSIFIED

July 25, 1994

County of Contra Costa
Office of the Sheriff-Coroner

Warren E. Rupf
Sheriff-Coroner

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AUG 9 1994

RECEIVED
SHERIFF-CORONER
OFFICE

The Honorable Reed E. Hundt
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: Billed Party Preference; CC Docket Number 92-77

Dear Commissioner Hundt:

As Sheriff of Contra Costa County, California, I believe the F.C.C. Billed Party Preference proposal to route telephone calls via carriers of choice will cause harm to local jail administrators and eventually inmates.

I, along with the other Sheriffs, administer county jails throughout the State of California and request the Federal Communications Commission exclude local jails from the "Billed Party Preference" proposal. Sheriffs in the State of California have a hundred years of experience in providing services to inmates. It has taken years and many successes and failures, before we ended up with the phone system we now enjoy. The existing system is comparatively free of fraud and allows local control. Telephones, if abused, can be of significant threat and nuisance to third parties and of great cost. Without vast experience and testimony from experienced jail administrators and Sheriffs, I'm not sure proper recognition of the abuse and fraud potential at correctional facilities will be fully realized.

In California, inmates and those receiving calls, share in the responsibility and cost of the phone system. It is the opinion of many that too many services are now provided free of cost to inmates and your "Billed Party Preference" proposal would eliminate funding used to pay for the very system the inmates now use and enjoy.

Under our existing agreements we have a reasonable degree of control to prevent abuse. Under your proposal we fear that control will be lost and F.C.C. can not step in the place of the Sheriffs to assume the role of telephone systems managers via agreements and contracts. Your intent to reduce costs for inmates, or those called, could, in fact, result in an increase in cost. Sensible and reasonable charges could be a thing of the past with virtually no party responsible for the establishment of reasonable contracts or agreements to the benefit of all; a win-win situation.

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The Honorable Reed E. Hundt

Page 2

July 25, 1994

Eliminating the O+ commissions received by the Sheriffs of California will also reduce or cancel programs funded by that source. In this time of fiscal crisis, programs directly benefiting inmates through the inmate welfare fund could be lost. Programs that could be negatively affected are programs such as: literacy training, job training, substance abuse, chaplin services, and others.

Without equivocation, I oppose F.C.C. efforts that infringes on the ability of the Sheriffs of the State of California to provide a cost effective, viable, workable and fundable program that we have developed over many years. In this time of fiscal crisis, neither the state sheriffs nor the F.C.C. should remove systems that require inmates the pay-as-you-go philosophy. I respectfully request that you not attempt to fix something that is not in need of repair and instead exclude local Jails from your "Billed Party Preference" proposal.

Sincerely,

Warren E. Rupf, Sheriff

WER:RP:mg

cc: Congressman George Miller



DOCKET FILE COPY
Cobb County Sheriff's Office

Public Safety Building
185 Washington Avenue / Marietta, Georgia 30090-9650
Telephone: (404) 499-4600 / Fax: (404) 499-4797

BILL HUTSON / Sheriff **H. P. (Buck) CRAFT / Chief Deputy**

August 1, 1994

The Honorable Reed E Hundt, Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW
Washington, D.C.

RECEIVED

AUG 9 1994

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF RECORDS

Re: CC Docket No. 92-77 Opposition to Billed Party Preference

Dear Chairman Hundt:

I have been informed that the Federal Communications Commission is scheduled to consider a proposal concerning Billed Party Preference (BPP) and its application to detention facilities. BPP would return much of the control of the inmate telephones to the inmate and numerous telephone service carriers. Such dispersal of control would provide for fraud, nuisance calls, and the loss of funds for inmate programs. After reviewing the proposal and considering the impact of BPP, I find that I am strongly opposed to such a ruling.

Within the last year, with the cooperation of our carriers, we were able to install equipment which has enabled us to restrict the services provided through the carriers to the inmate telephones. Such equipment was necessitated by the complaints we were experiencing in regards to family members with astronomical telephone charges and nuisance calls to victims, judges, and other county offices, including our own. In several cases, individuals complained about telephone charges for calls which were accepted by non-responsible parties in the household. In others, individuals were terrorized or given misleading information by an inmate who they believed to have been released. This was made possible by the inmate being able to make three way calls. After extensive research, we found that the only way to have control of such "user access features" was to install the required equipment. This equipment has helped us resolve some of the problems by enabling us to limit three-way calls and access to designated telephone numbers. When a telephone is misused or an incident occurs, the equipment also allows us to basically track the call back to the originating telephone and responsible inmate.

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"To Protect and Serve"